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to the Islamic nation April 3rd 2002

In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

O' Allah your blessings upon him from whom sprang all secrets and out of whom came all lights and in whom the truths were augmented and whose knowledge was passed unto Adam.. The creatures are incapable of understanding him and the mind is too petty. So none could encompass him, neither those who came before him, nor those who followed. So the gardens of paradise are lighted with the flowers of his beauty, and from the basins of omnipotence run streams of his light and there is nothing which is not connected in him.. (Beginning of salat ibn Bashish)

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters in “At-Tariqa Al-Burhaniya Al-Disuqiya Al-Shadhuliya”: greetings, and in your name I greet the nation of al-Mustafa, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him, in the east and west of earth: “As-Salamu Alaikum wa Rahmatu al-Llahi ta-ala wa Barakatuhu”. I have the pleasure to offer you my warm greetings and pleasant wishes, in this blessed night when we are celebrating the memory of the friend of Allah, al-Imam al-Sheik Muhammad Uthman Abdu al-Burhani. His commemoration coincides with the start of the new Hijri year as well as with the 100 years anniversary of his honourable birth. We beseech Allah that this celebration will bring relief and support.

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters...

Allah ta-ala said in His revelation: “He (Allah) said: Go out, all of you, from it (Paradise). Some of you will be enemies unto one another! Nonetheless, there shall most certainly come unto you a guidance from Me: and he who follows My guidance will not go astray, and neither fall in misery * But as for him who shall turn away from remembrance of Me – they shall lead a life of distress: and on the Day of Resurrection We shall raise them up blind”. Allah, the Great, said the truth.

I am talking to you, tonight, of one of the major concerns of the world, if not the most important and dangerous one; i.e., the phenomena of religious extremism. The world suffered a lot from this phenomena during the past fifty years. The recent international developments in the world contributed in crystallizing and revealing its danger, a danger that leads to terrorism, the killing of innocent people, and destruction of the earth instead of its development. This can also be an obvious result of the misunderstanding of the warning stated in the previously mentioned generous verse. When mankind descended to earth, Allah ta-ala promised them means of living. Allah asked mankind to remember Him and warned them from turning away. However, descendants of Adam turned away from the reason for their creation. “My servant, I created you for Me and created the world for you. You were distracted from what I have created you for by that I created for you” (Hadith Qudsi)... Here we do not want to describe the disease as many scholars and preachers do. Analysing the symptoms and dangers of a disease is not of the same benefit to a patient as the knowledge of the cure and methods to avoid a relapse. These are described in one Hadith of the generous Messenger, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him. He said: “The righteousness of the latter of this Islamic nation (umma) depends the righteousness of its leaders; scholars and chiefs”.

On this basis, we must review and draw from the teachings of Mawlana al-Sheik Muhammad Uthman Abdu al-Burhani (consents of Allah be upon him). More than six decades ago, he drew the world's attention to the dangers of cultural globalisation and religious extremism. His lifelong efforts aimed at bringing a good order to the world, refine human behaviour and harmonize heaven and earth.. Sheik Muhammad Uthman Abdu al-Burhani developed a precise strategic system on how to build up individuals, as the smallest unit of mankind, to enable them to live the religion by word and deed. This is accomplished by dhikr and praying upon the Messenger, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon him and this again leads to perfect behaviour and high morals, sincerity and honesty. Thus peace and harmony are established in the individual. Communities and then societies will become righteous and balanced. In turn, international peace and harmony can radiate from them and back..

In the past decades, the Islamic world witnessed various religious missionary activities organized all over the world. Nowadays, more than fifty years after the end of World War II, the world has not benefited, but rather a new worry has been added to the world : religious extremism. Religious extremism can corrupt peoples' belief and threaten the future of the earth and mankind. The world has reacted confused in the face of this new danger. The results of past experiences, however, imposes the necessity for strategic renewal . The question is: what could this renewal be? What are its characteristics? And what had been done wrong?

Brothers and sisters...

It is well known, for many people, that Sheik Muhammad Uthman Abdu al-Burhani connected Sufism to al-Quran al-Karim and to al-Sunna. He proved that Sufism is the essence of religion. One of the most important and serious issues tackled by Sheik Muhammad Uthman Abdu al-Burhani was the responsibility of guidance and leadership. In his lessons and books, he explained the kind of leadership and guidance accepted by Allah(to whom Alone belongs Might and Majesty).In this system leadership and guidance is entrusted to messengers, prophets and 'virtuous men' (awliya/saints). These issues are not left to the general opinions and agreements of the earth's inhabitants, as many people believe – above all, those who established missionary groups and invented guiding techniques not in accordance to the previously mentioned divine system. With the end of the era of prophets came the era of the saints and imam leaders. This is indicated in the following Hadith al-Sharif: "Every one hundred years an Imam is sent out, for the world to see, to restore for people the issues of their religion". The text says: "... is sent out", making obvious that this is not a matter for the people to choose.

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters...

The only guarantee for preserving the earth and protecting it from corruption and destruction by human mistakes rooted in the extremist and irrational missionary activities spreading out all over the world, as well as for protecting the religion itself from misuse and perversion, will be through establishing a connection between earth and heaven. Earth cannot be secured by anything else. This leads us to the importance of those who have been selected and refined by Allah to take on this important responsibility. Those virtuous men (awliya) who have His permission to guide His creatures, teach them their religion, and educate them therein. Allah ta-ala said: "Say (O' Messenger): this is My way: I am calling (you) unto Allah, upon right examination, I and they who

follow me”. The “right examination” (basira) is the outer reality (farasa) of the believers, in which al-Mustafa, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him said: “Beware of the outer reality (farasa) of the believers, as he sees through the light of Allah”. It is important for the world today to regard this important fact. Ignoring this fact has caused wrongdoing and ruin in the world. Allah’s will required sending messengers to humankind at certain times. It also required entrusting the responsibility of guidance and leadership, after the passing away of al-Mustafa, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him, to His virtuous men (awliya) . This is as in scientific methodology that entrusts certain responsibilities only to authorized experts. Religious guidance must be exerted by an authorized expert that excels in knowledge and righteousness, derived through the worship of Allah. Allah ta-ala said: “The Beneficent, ask one about Him, who has knowledge. ”, This issue needs a long explanation. Mawlana al-Sheik Muhammad Uthman clarified this issue in his lessons and two books: “The victory of virtuous men of the Beneficent” (Intisar awliya’ ar-Rahman), and “Well meaning advice to the Nation” (Tabri’at al-thim-ma fa nush al-umma). Here he refers to al-Quran al-Kareem and al-Sunna. These two books could have been considered an alarm bell for the uncoming danger. This alarm stressed ears and knocked hearts. And as people ignored the alarm, they were awoken bullets and exploding bombs killing innocent people all over the world. Here we can clearly see the danger of leaving the responsibility for guidance and leadership to unqualified people using educational and religious methods contradicting the tolerant and forgiving principles of Islam. On the contrary, they work against these principles. Many unqualified people found a reason for their leadership in the following Hadith by the Messenger of Allah, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him: “Recite me, even by one verse alone”. Those people take this hadith as an argument to guide others in religion as they please. They do not acknowledge any of the leading imams. They deny the righteousness of virtuous Sufi-scholars. The following saying by Sayyidina Omar bin al-Khattab is a true description of these people: “Beware of those concerned in (giving) opinions. They are people who lack strength for memorizing the (Hadith) sayings of the Messenger of Allah, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him”. Moreover, these people continue to obscure others from the significance of al-Mustafa, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him, while boosting the importance of their own leaders. They have forgotten the generous verse saying: “... so that you (O people) support Him and revere Him”. Imam Shafi’a (consents of Allah be upon him) said about this verse: “this verse taught us that respecting the Messenger is worthier than following Him”.

The Messenger of Allah, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him said: “Among you, My household is like the ship of Noah, those who went with it survived and those who remained behind perished”. He also said: “I am near the callers and I will respond. I am leaving with you the two significant heirlooms; the book of Allah, a cord extended from earth to heaven , and the house of my offspring and (Allah) the Most Fine told me that they will not be separated till they reach al-Hawd on the Day of Resurrection. So you know now how to handle my heritage”, (narrated by Ahmad).

From the sayings of Imam Shafi’a (consents of Allah be upon him) in this respect:

O’ family of the Messenger of Allah...

The love of which is a duty from Allah, revealed in Qur’an

You have been so honoured that if someone does not praise you

His prayers will not be heard

Sayyidi Fakhruddin said:

If we are asked about the book, then we say : It is the book the glorious masters spoke of. Verily they are the legitimate guides whose station is unsurpassed.

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters

Moreover, those people, mentioned earlier, carried flags of hostility against the virtuous men of Allah (awliya) (consents of Allah be upon them). They had fallen ill with the disease of the time. They denied the gift of Allah to His Messenger to intercede and prohibited the Nation to ask him for entreatment and his blessings. The obvious results is what the world is experiencing today: Islam has become disreputed by no cause of its own. These people have contributed in their own way to the phenomena of extremism leading to terrorism. They have prohibited human rights which Allah guaranteed . Islam is presented as a backward religion with no room for science, technology and development ; moreover they present Islam as a religion with no respect for human rights.

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters...

This disease of the era is intensifying as the Islamic world is approaching the age of cultural globalisation. It is being confronted with the dangers of a western cultural invasion. Moreover, poverty is intensively destroying the social structures of a considerable part of the Islamic nation. This threatens Islamic culture, behaviour and civilization which within just a few years is threatened by total collapse . It is necessary to be prepared for this danger.

It is obvious that these dangers cannot only be met by strategies of a broad intercultural dialogue. It is important for the world to utilise the experience of “At-Tariqa Al-Burhaniya Al-Disuqiya Al-Shadhuliya” when developing strategies to meet the challenges of the coming age.. At-Tariqa introduced an advanced model of Sufi Islam that forms an extremely effective healing medicine for this age by all standards. It practically initiated the process of globalising Islam. It crossed geographic borders. The Burhani –light shines nearly everywhere in the world, even in Europe, the U.S. and other countries of the west which are especially suffering under extremism and wrong and corrupt missionary activities. At-Tariqa was able to enter into hearts of people in more than fifty countries only by kindness, gentleness, and love. At-Tariqa could win the love of the people and act as a good example. So at-Tariqa can spread around the world despite the diversities in environment, technological development, , languages, accents, customs and traditions in these areas of the world. The city of Khartoum became a centre, base and substantial reference point for human understanding . It is unthinkable that Sudan and the Islamic world will not benefit from this unique experience.

Only with the help of people with qualities of leadership and responsibility- not with totally unqualified- can we confront the foreign schemes, the dangers of a cultural globalisation and the invasion of western ideologies. Otherwise the umma will be without any protection against the poisoned arrows of foreign cultural and religious infiltration.

It is about time in the Islamic world, to divide up the tasks between the state and Sufi orders. Sufi orders can assume responsibility in ethical education, forming consciousness raising values such as truth, sincerity, commitment, etc... by mediums and techniques approved by Allah subhanahu wa

ta-ala. The state can assume responsibility for intellectual education, general knowledge scientific and vocational training.. The fruits of this intellectual and ethical education will blend to produce the good Muslim citizen who will be inner cell of a comprehensive Islamic renaissance. He will be firmly rooted in his society which will lead to international peace and security. The heart of every human doing Allah-dhikr is full of love will and can only radiate love and goodness for humankind. Such a human being will make every effort to do good either for others or for the earth. Accordingly, ethical education is the best basis for protecting people and running earth properly. This attitude is embodied in Sufi Islam which was and is the personification of the foundation, principles and values of Islam and will always remain so- without distortion.

Even though Sufism only means realizing the three levels of religion Islam, Imam, Ihsan, some people have tried to cast doubt on the legitimacy of Sufism and to depict it as unislamic. Sufi scholars, who are also always al-Fiqh (sharia) scholars distinguish between these three levels. They warn not to confuse these levels which will lead to the edge, which some people have already reached today due to wrong leadership which straggling people respond to.

Those, among Sufi Muslims, who turned away from reciting al-Awrad and are only engaged in developing virtues (manaqeb), are no longer receiving support and backing (madad). They only carry names of fathers but lack their inheritance.

We pronounce here: Sufism is knowledge and actions.

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters... Sayyidi Fakhruddin (consents of Allah be upon him) said:

From the perfect gifts of Allah... from the bountiful gifts ...
O' people, Ibrahim came to you...

The appointed knowledge for every Muslim, male and female, relates to religious duties (farida). Every muslim as well as saint (wali) must fulfil these duties. Al-Sheik helps his follower (murid) by teaching him additional exercises (nawafil). These exercises are the shadow of the duties. To utter that there is no God but Allah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah is the gateway into Islam. The additional exercise of this utter (shahada) is to call Allah and pray upon the Messenger, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him, which form the gateway into Iman, i.e., the gateway to journey to Allah. "...and continue to be conscious of Allah and (truly) believe, and grow ever more conscious of Allah and in doing righteous deeds, for Allah loves the doers of righteous deeds" (Al-Ma'idh). Belief splits into seventy-something branches. The lowest branch among them is to withdraw from things that harm you in the way to Allah – the ego telling you to perform bad deeds. Mawlana says:

“ The uttering to do evil, how bad is this drink, it is deadly poison and the source of all suffering. When we kill it, how great the reward for the one who kills, as he has removed the source of evil in you.”

The highest branch of belief is not only to utter but to see truly, that there is no God but Allah.

He who beheld the merciful countenance...
Would he enjoy the wine below?

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters...

Religion is the source of right-guidance and legislation for the people. However, it is not a source of dominance of one state over another, or a group or community. Sufi Islam has been adapted by people all over the world. Sufi orders united many nations and tribes because it is based on the Islamic principle that consider all people to be of equal value. Islam spread gently in most parts of the world in the past centuries. Islam has no coercion, compulsion and violence. Islam does not know roughness, rudeness, severity and violence. It resides deep in the hearts of Muslim becoming a social need as well as a source of right-guidance and high morals, the basis of good behaviour. Sufi Islam can be observed in human behaviour. It is practical proof that worshipping is not only a physical performance but a tool for elevating morals, for building a straight human character, and making a virtuous person truthful, loyalty, noble and humble. These characteristics are the result of calling upon Allah, praying upon the Messenger, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him, and good examples. They are not the result of force of law, punishment and state authority. "And if it had been the will of Allah, all mankind would have believed; all of them together! Do you (O' Messenger) want to force mankind to become believers?". "... had you (O' Messenger) been cruel or hard-hearted, they would indeed have turned away from you". "Invite (mankind) to the way of Your God with wisdom and fair admonition, and argue with them with the most courteous manner". "...and if you do not know, then ask the people of dhikr (Allah)".

Brothers and sisters...

I talked about the disease of the age and the danger of giving responsibility of guidance to unqualified people. I clearly demonstrated the adverse effects this had on humanity. That, however, does not mean that there are no other things threatening life on earth. Terrorism is caused by extremism. It cannot be linked to a certain religion, race or ideology. The world witnesses terrorism from those following other religions. We cannot only talk about the security of the earth and the appropriate means for running it and ignore the negative aspects of the world order in the past fifty years. This is based on double standards : greedy actions are worsening the condition of the world, leading to failure and confusion. The way into a secure world depends on the level of success in finding a formula for running the world combining science and technology with justice and human and ethical principles.

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters...

With the appearance of the light in western Sudan, the lights of Abul Ainan shone in its southern regions and al-Nuba. The lights of at-Tariqa Al-Burhaniya shine all over Sudan so that the hearts of the people are filled with light. To love each other in Allah is the only way to unite the people of north and south Sudan and the people of the Nile valley, north and south

"... if you had spent all there is on earth you could not have brought their hearts together, but Allah did bring them together" (Al-Anfal). In this respect, let me, in your name; greet our brothers of the "Nile Valley Congress" headed by Dr. Husain Abu-Salih. They carry the worries and sufferings of their nation, as well as its hopes and aspirations. They are quietly working to establish a new basis and concepts for politics and government of the state, rooted scientific methodology and based on truth, loyalty and the interests of their homeland. Such basics and concepts have been permanently missed in our area. They are being assisted by expert groups that have received the highest

qualifications and ethical education from the hands of Mawlana al-Sheik Muhammad Uthman Abdu al-Burhani (consents of Allah be upon him). These qualifications support and guarantee success in building a new political and administrative order based on science and morals. This is a materialization of the way of al-Mustafa, the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him, who taught his companions to call upon Allah and pray upon His Messenger prior to entrusting them with the affairs of the state. The benefits of this way will not only be mirrored in Sudan, but also in the whole Nile Valley as well. The Nile Valley Conference will realize the good news of Mawlana Sheikh Muhammad Uthman: the unity of Egypt and Sudan. It is a hidden (batin) issue that will come to be, without any doubts.

Brothers and sisters... sons and daughters...

This speech made you aware of the danger of the disease of age and the healing medicine therefore. Thus, you should be aware of the massive responsibility we are all carrying in the coming stage, while we are confronting the most important problems and worries. Therefore, I am asking you all to make more efforts, to prepare for the coming stage with seriousness, determination, love and felicity. You must know that the stage of sowing is concluded, and it is time for spreading. With the rise of the minarets of the Mosque of Sayyidi Fakhruddin into the space of the 21st century, the world is on the brink of one of the most important epochs in the history of humanity, i.e., the appearance of the kingdom of Sayyidi Ibrahim Al-Qurashi Ad-Disuqi.

This our kingdom has appeared...

The kingdom of power and the treasure of joy...

Allah ta-ala said in His precise revelation: "When Allah's victory and succour comes. And thou seest people enter into Allah's religion in hosts. Then praise Your Lord and seek His Forgiveness. He is the Ever-Forgiving".

"O' Allah, I beseech of Your demand on me, and to bless my praise of You, that you permit me to speak and my thinking and glorifying of You to which You have led me and how petty are the duties you request of me and how great Your Favours, that You have promised me and how great Your Goodness that I may thank you. You have begun to shower favours upon me and it is but just to order me to thank You and you have promised me the multiplication and more and You gave me voluntarily and in abundance from Your Grace and you asked only for my small thanks. You be thanked, O Lord that You have saved me in Your Grace from awful trials and the pits of misery and that You have not let me face Your Disdain or terrible trials and have bestowed health upon me and well-being and that You have shown me the easier way and that You have honoured me many times over by opening an honourable path for me and declaring the good tidings of a high and noble station (by You) by giving me the most sublime Prophet, the best, who asks for mercy for his followers, the noblest Prophet, the one most near to You and the most convincing, Muhammad, God bless him and His companions and the pure and true companions of the Prophet's peace.

And the prayers and peace of Allah be upon Sayyidina Muhammad and His Households

Glory be to Your God; the God of Majesty, from all what they attribute to Him * And Peace be upon the Messengers * And Praise to Allah; the God of the worlds.